

Scratchboard:

“The art of Taking Away”

A scratchboard is a drawing board coated with fine white clay, then top coated with ink. Pictures are created from scratching the ink layer off with a sharp tool. With each scratch produces a white mark representing light in the design. The areas that need to be a value between black and white should be scratched out with a different kind of markings leaving a little black ink on the paper.



A COMMON MISTAKE

The first mistake people usually make is drawing everything with a white outline, like they would on a chalkboard. They don't get the result they intended.



In the second example you can see how black lines were created by scratching on either side of them. It's a lot more work but the result is much better.

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LEARNING TARGETS:

- 1.) The artist created a final 9x12 scratchboard drawing of “nature” scratching the negative, leaving positive black areas, black.
- 2.) Creativity: The artist creatively used the elements of art (space, form, value, shape, texture, etc.)
- 3.) Craftsmanship: The artist did a nice job scratching inside the lines, not ripping the scratchboard, etc.
- 4.) Reflection: The artist critiqued their final project on their blog including all reflection pieces and a photo of their art.



Suggestions:

- * Sketch out the main shapes of your idea on to a piece of paper. Transfer your drawing on to the scratchboard.
- * Creatively figure out how to incorporate all of your space within your scratchboard picture plane. Try to keep the ratio of black and white balanced as well as the incorporation of at least 1 other value tone.
- * Be creative with scratch markings / textures.

